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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2011/12	$56,512,000
Expenditure for 2011/12	$56,323,000
Unencumbered balance for 2011/12	$189,000
Appropriation for 2012/13	$54,576,000
Projected expenditure for 2012/13[a]	$54,455,600
Estimated underexpenditure for 2012/13[a]	$120,400
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2013/14	$54,706,500
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2013/14	$54,706,500

[a] Estimates as at 31 January 2013.

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I. Introduction

1. **The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommends approval of the Secretary-General's proposals for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 and has made observations, where appropriate, in the paragraphs below.**

2. During its consideration of the financing of UNFICYP, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 20 March 2013. The documents reviewed and those used for background by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The Committee's detailed comments and recommendations on the findings of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 and on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations can be found in its forthcoming related reports (see documents A/67/782 and A/67/780, respectively).

II. Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

3. By its resolution 65/295, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $56,512,000 gross ($54,107,800 net) for the maintenance of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. That amount included voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus in the amount of $19,114,267, equivalent to one third of the net appropriation, and $6.5 million from the Government of Greece. An amount of $34,506,933 gross ($31,785,933 net) has been assessed on Member States. Expenditures for the period totalled $56,323,000 gross ($53,857,700 net). The resulting unencumbered balance of $189,000 gross ($250,100 net) represents, in gross terms, 0.3 per cent of the total appropriation. Underexpenditure under military contingents and United Nations police and operational costs was offset in part by additional requirements for civilian personnel. A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the performance report (A/67/590).

4. In paragraph 10 of the performance report, the Secretary-General indicates that, during the reporting period, an explosion at the Mari naval base caused serious damage to the Vasiliko power supply station, the main electrical power source for Cyprus. As a result, the production capacity of the Electrical Authority of Cyprus was reduced by 50 per cent. The Advisory Committee notes from the report that the shortage of electrical power led to increased generator use by the Force. As indicated in the supplementary information provided to the Committee, actual consumption of generator fuel amounted to 295,144 litres compared with the budgeted amount of 157,200 litres. The Committee further notes that, in order to cover the related unforeseen expenditures, resources were reprioritized from other budget lines, including official travel and special equipment.

5. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that the budget for UNFICYP for the 2012/13 period provided for a projected increase of 11.4 per cent in resource requirements for utilities (under the facilities and infrastructure budget line) to address the increased costs of power generation incurred as a result of the

explosion (see A/66/718/Add.9, para. 32). In paragraph 10 of the performance report, the Secretary-General indicated that the Vasiliko power station was not expected to regain its full operating capacity until March 2013. **The Committee expects that detailed information on the status of electrical power generation on the island during the 2012/13 financial period and the implications of the situation for UNFICYP will be provided in the related performance report.**

6. The Secretary-General reports that only 1,037 of the planned 1,320 hours of flight for air support and patrols were realized, owing to the unavailability of the Bell-212 helicopter from 1 July to 30 November 2011 (see expected accomplishment 2.1, Maintenance of the ceasefire and the integrity of the United Nations buffer zone). The lower number of flight hours also resulted in reduced aviation fuel usage; against a budgeted supply of 257,534 litres, only 166,181 litres were used (see outputs under expected accomplishment 4.1, Effective and efficient logistical, administrative and security support).

7. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Bell-212 helicopter had been grounded from July to November 2011 for maintenance and rotation. The rotation was not completed until November because provisions in the letter-of-assist arrangement between the contributing Government, United Nations Headquarters and UNFICYP required clarification. **The Committee regrets the delay in rotating the Bell-212 helicopter and expects that, in future, every effort will be made to ensure that letter-of-assist arrangements are clear to all parties at the time of signature.**

8. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information presented in the performance report on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

III. Financial position and information on performance for the current period

9. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 13 February 2013, a total of $473,814,000 had been assessed on Member States in respect of UNFICYP since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to $444,681,000, leaving an outstanding balance of $29,133,000. The Committee was also informed that, as at 31 December 2012, $9,612,000 was owed for troops and $3,412,000 was owed for contingent-owned equipment. As at 11 February 2013, taking into account a three-month operating reserve of $10,385,000 (excluding reimbursements for troop-contributing countries), the Force had a cash shortfall of $6,285,000. The Committee notes that the cash position of the Force might not allow for the reimbursement of troop-contributing countries at the time of the next payment. **The Committee notes with concern that, as in previous years, the cash position of the Force as at 11 February 2013 does not cover the three-month operating cash reserve. The Committee reiterates its concern at the persistent precariousness of the financial situation of the Force and its potential impact on the timely reimbursement of troop-contributing countries** (see also A/66/718/Add.9, para. 11). **The Committee recalls the repeated calls by the General Assembly for all**

Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions.[1]

10. With regard to death and disability compensation, as at 31 December 2012, $1,645,000 had been paid in respect of 286 claims since the inception of the Force. One claim was pending. **The Advisory Committee expects that the outstanding claim will be settled expeditiously.**

11. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 January 2013, the human resources incumbency for UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was as follows:

Category of personnel	*Authorized*[a]	*Encumbered*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
Military contingent personnel	860	860	–
United Nations police	69	66	4.3
International staff	38	38	–
National staff	112	107	4.5

[a] Represents the highest authorized strength for the period.

12. The Advisory Committee was provided with a table showing current and projected expenditures for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. Expenditures for the period as at 31 January 2013 amounted to $36,908,600 gross. At the end of the current financial period, estimated total expenditures would amount to $54,455,600 against the appropriation of $54,576,000, leaving a projected unencumbered balance of $120,400.

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014

A. Mandate and planned results

13. The mandate of UNFICYP was established by the Security Council in its resolution 186 (1964). The most recent extension of the mandate, to 31 July 2013, was authorized by the Council in its resolution 2089 (2013).

14. The planning assumptions and mission support initiatives for the 2013/14 period are described in paragraphs 6 to 11 of the proposed budget (A/67/706). As indicated in paragraphs 6 and 7 of that report, during the budget period UNFICYP will continue to focus on creating conditions conducive to the efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem and will assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Chief of Mission, as the principal adviser and deputy to the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus, in her efforts to support full-fledged negotiations between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders. The Force will also continue to designate substantive staff to facilitate and support the good offices of the Special Adviser, as required.

[1] See General Assembly resolutions 66/246, 65/293, 64/243, 62/236, 56/253 and 54/249.

15. During its consideration of the Secretary-General's proposals, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as a result of the Force's efforts and the good cooperation of the opposing forces, the military situation in the buffer zone had remained generally calm during the period under review, with only one serious violation of the ceasefire arrangement. However, while the greater number of applications for use of the buffer zone for civilian activities was a welcome reflection of the Force's contribution to enhanced security, there had been a sharp increase in the number and extent of unauthorized civilian activities in the buffer zone, which could undermine stability. The Committee understands that it is in this context that the establishment of two additional National Professional Officer posts for Civil Affairs Officers is being proposed (see paras. 23-26 below).

16. The Advisory Committee was further informed that the tense atmosphere on the island and in the region, related primarily to exploration for natural resources off the shores of Cyprus, also had the potential to affect the status quo in or around the buffer zone. Consequently, during the budget period UNFICYP, as the primary security instrument on the island, would need to remain vigilant to guard against any escalation of tensions. In that connection, and as indicated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 12 of the budget document, possible instability on the island and in the region will require greater cooperation among missions in the region.

17. On the mission support side, the Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 8 of the budget document that, as part of its efforts to streamline and optimize support to the military, United Nations police and substantive components of the Force, the Mission Support Division undertook a further review of its staffing structure and determined that two national General Service posts would no longer be required; the Secretary-General is therefore proposing their abolishment (see para. 28 below for the Committee's recommendation on those proposals). A number of efficiency initiatives underpinning the operations of the support component are outlined in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the budget document (see also para. 43 below), while the measures envisaged to implement the observations and recommendations of legislative bodies and relevant internal policy decisions are described in paragraph 11.

B. Resource requirements

18. The proposed budget for UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014, which provides for the deployment of 860 military contingent personnel, 69 United Nations police officers, 38 international staff and 112 national staff, amounts to $54,706,500 gross, representing an increase of $130,500, or 0.2 per cent in gross terms, over the appropriation of $54,576,000 for 2012/13. The Advisory Committee notes that, compared with the projected expenditure of $54,455,600 for 2012/13 (see para. 12 above), the proposed resource increase for 2013/14 amounts to $250,900, or 0.5 per cent. The proposed increase reflects mainly additional requirements for civilian personnel, partly offset by reduced requirements for military personnel and operational costs. Detailed information on the financial resources requested and an analysis of variances are provided in sections II and III of the proposed budget (A/67/706).

19. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's report that the proposed budget for UNFICYP for 2013/14 includes non-budgeted contributions estimated at $343,400. As indicated by the Secretary-General, that

amount, included under the provisions of the status-of-forces agreement, is inclusive of the market value, as estimated by UNFICYP, of the cost of United Nations observation posts and office and accommodation facilities provided by the Government of Cyprus to the Force at no cost for military contingents and United Nations police, including the UNFICYP headquarters complex. **The Committee notes with appreciation the continued contributions.**

1. Military and police personnel

Category	*Approved 2012/13*	*Proposed 2013/14*[a]	*Variance*
Military contingents	860	860	–
United Nations police	69	69	–

[a] Vacancy factors of 1 and 2 per cent have been applied to the cost estimates for military contingents and United Nations police, respectively.

20. The proposed budget for military and police personnel for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amounts to $22,962,700, a decrease of $279,800, or 1.2 per cent, compared with the apportionment of $23,242,500 for 2012/13. The decrease is attributable mainly to the exclusion of the provision for supplemental payments to troop-contributing countries, approved for the 2012/13 period, offset in part by increased requirements for rations.

2. Civilian personnel

Category	*Approved 2012/13*	*Proposed 2013/14*	*Variance*
International staff	38	38	–
National staff	112	112	–

21. The proposed budget for civilian personnel for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 amounts to $14,847,600, an increase of $623,200, or 4.4 per cent, over the apportionment for 2012/13. The vacancy factors applied to the cost estimates for civilian personnel are as follows: 3 per cent for international staff, 5 per cent for national General Service staff and 25 per cent for National Professional Officers, as compared with 5 per cent, 2 per cent and zero, respectively, for the preceding period.

22. The additional requirements under international staff ($249,300, or 3.9 per cent) are attributable primarily to the application of the above-mentioned 3 per cent vacancy factor, as compared with the 5 per cent factor applied in the 2012/13 budget. The Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 32 of the budget document that recent incumbency patterns informed the decision to apply a lower vacancy factor. Under national staff, the increase of $373,900, or 4.9 per cent, is due mainly to the proposed establishment of two National Professional Officer posts in the Civil Affairs Section, offset in part by the proposed abolishment of two national General Service posts in the Mission Support Division (see paras. 23-26 and 28 below).

Recommendations on posts

Establishment

23. Under component 1, Political and civil affairs, the Secretary-General is proposing the establishment of two National Professional Officer posts for Civil Affairs Officers to assist in the resolution of sector-level administrative and urban planning issues and to collaborate with other international UNFICYP personnel based in the sectors to encourage reconciliation between the communities in the buffer zone and elsewhere on the island (A/67/706, para. 17). Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the two proposed Civil Affairs Officer posts would provide professional civilian capacity at the sector level to strengthen the Force's engagement with local government offices and community leaders; facilitate consistent face-to-face liaison over the long term, thus mitigating the impact of the frequent rotation of United Nations police officers, who provided dedicated support to the Civil Affairs Section at the sector level; maintain records and institutional memory relating to the complex and persistent issues at the sector level; and advise short-term United Nations police and military personnel about local culture and governance procedures as well as alert them to the political ramifications of proposed interventions.

24. The Advisory Committee was also informed that the two proposed posts would be based in Pyla, the only mixed village inside the buffer zone, where UNFICYP was currently facing a number of challenges associated with unauthorized civilian activity, including the construction of a university. The incumbents of the two posts (one Greek Cypriot and one Turkish Cypriot) would strengthen relations with the municipal authorities with a view to forming local government partnerships and responding promptly to unauthorized activities. Over time, they would also be able to facilitate bicommunal activities and engage naturally with the local communities.

25. The Advisory Committee was further informed that the two proposed posts would fill a vital gap between the administrative roles of the existing eight national General Service staff and the substantive roles of the three international staff in the Civil Affairs Section. At present, the Section did not have any spare capacity to address that gap or to provide the skills needed, including in the area of mediation, to achieve the greater level of interaction desired with governance institutions, facilitate closer connections between the two communities in sensitive locations like Pyla or contribute impartially to solving complex community problems. The Committee was informed that the proposed establishment of national Civil Affairs Officer posts represented a clear departure from past practice, where day-to-day problem-solving in the sectors had been the exclusive responsibility of international staff. The recruitment of National Professional Officers would signal the Force's willingness to build national capacity and increase the involvement of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in the normalization process through a perception of local ownership of field-level day-to-day processes. That approach would also strengthen the Force's readiness to implement a settlement plan, once agreed, and to effectively engage with the authorities when the time came to transfer responsibility for the buffer zone.

26. **In view of the foregoing justification, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the establishment of two National Professional Officer posts for Civil Affairs Officers in the Civil Affairs Section.**

Redeployments

27. Under component 4, Support, the Secretary-General is proposing the redeployment of two national General Service posts, Senior Budget Assistant and a Financial Assistant, from the Office of the Chief of Mission Support to the new Finance and Budget Section in order to consolidate finance and budget functions into a single organizational unit. As indicated in paragraph 22 of the budget document, the consolidation of those functions is intended to improve the Force's capacity to provide financial management and related advisory services following the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and the enterprise resource planning system, Umoja, as well as to enhance alignment between the formulation and the implementation of the budget. **The Advisory Committee has no objection to the redeployments proposed by the Secretary-General**. The Committee intends to comment in more detail on the consolidation of finance and budget sections in peacekeeping missions in its forthcoming report on cross-cutting issues (A/67/780).

Abolishments

28. Under component 4, the Secretary-General is also proposing the abolishment of two national General Service posts — one Administrative Assistant from the Office of the Chief of Integrated Support Services and one Facilities Management Assistant from the Engineering Section. It is indicated in paragraph 21 of the budget document that, following a review of the Force's staffing structure, it has been determined that the functions of the two posts can be absorbed. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Facilities Management Assistant was performing the functions of upholsterer, which were no longer required by the Force. **The Committee has no objection to the proposed abolishment of two national General Service posts. The Committee recommends that, in future, for the purposes of clarity and to enable informed decision-making on staffing proposals, the specific functions of posts with generic titles such as Facilities Management Assistant be detailed in the budget document**.

3. Operational costs

(United States dollars)

Apportionment 2012/13	*Proposed 2013/14*	*Variance*
17 109 100	16 896 200	(212 900)

29. Operational costs for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 are estimated at $16,896,200, reflecting a decrease of $212,900, or 1.2 per cent, as compared with the apportionment for 2012/13.

Ground transportation

30. Estimated requirements for ground transportation for the 2013/14 period amount to $2,766,400, a decrease of $598,900 (17.8 per cent) as compared with the apportionment for the 2012/13 period. The decrease is attributable primarily to a reduction in the number of rented vehicles from 184 in 2012/13 to 103 in 2013/14, offset in part by increased requirements for repairs and maintenance and spare parts.

31. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that UNFICYP currently operates 317 vehicles, comprising 184 rented, 94 United Nations-owned and 39 contingent-owned vehicles. Of those vehicles, 9 were designated for use by 23 uniformed personnel from infantry units, who, in the absence of a dedicated formed police unit, were fulfilling the functions of military police in the Force. As a cost-saving measure, it was proposed that total holdings for 2013/14 be reduced to 303 vehicles, comprising 103 rented, 161 United Nations-owned and 39 contingent-owned vehicles. The Committee notes from the budget document that the reduction in the number of rented vehicles from 184 to 103 is to be mostly offset by the transfer of 67 United Nations-owned vehicles from the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (A/67/706, para. 37).

32. During its consideration of the Secretary-General's proposals, the Advisory Committee was informed that, unlike many other peacekeeping mission host countries, Cyprus had a viable vehicle rental market. Furthermore, the good road conditions, as well as vehicle usage patterns, meant that renting was a feasible option for UNFICYP. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the cost of renting 103 vehicles during the 2013/14 period amounted to $983,673, based on existing contractual rates and the December 2012 United Nations operational exchange rate of €0.77 to the United States dollar. In comparison, the cost of renting 202 vehicles during the 2011/12 period amounted to $2,131,593. Under the terms of the vehicle rental contract, rental costs included third-party insurance coverage, maintenance and replacement vehicles, if required. Fuel was not included. The Committee intends to comment further on the relative merits of renting versus owning vehicles in its forthcoming report on cross-cutting issues (A/67/780).

Air transportation

33. Estimated requirements for air transportation for the 2013/14 period amount to $2,350,800, an increase of $325,800 (16.1 per cent) over the apportionment for 2012/13. According to the Secretary-General, the increase is attributable primarily to: (a) a change in the provisions of the letter-of-assist arrangements between the United Nations and a troop-contributing country, which include an increase in the cost of flight hours for two helicopters and the inclusion of requirements for painting them; and (b) the increase in the unit cost of aviation fuel from $0.897 per litre in 2012/13 to $0.966 per litre.

34. The Advisory Committee notes that, as compared with the current period, aviation fuel consumption is projected to increase by 1.3 per cent in 2013/14, from a budgeted 257,535 litres in 2012/13 (see A/66/686) to 260,873 litres. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the budget for aviation fuel was calculated using the established consumption standards set out in the Standard Cost and Ratio Manual, which were based on average consumption patterns for each type of aircraft over the last 7.5 years across various peacekeeping missions. For the 2012/13 period, the predetermined standards for the Bell-212 and Hughes 500D helicopters were 326 litres and 96 litres per flight hour, respectively. For the 2013/14 period, the standards had changed to 338 litres and 94 litres per flight hour, respectively. The Committee intends to comment further on the use of the Standard Cost and Ratio Manual in its forthcoming report on cross-cutting issues (A/67/780) (see also para. 41 below).

35. With regard to air patrols (see outputs under expected accomplishment 2.1, Maintenance of the ceasefire and the integrity of the United Nations buffer zone), the Advisory Committee notes that their number has increased from 64 per month in the performance period to a projected 70 per month during the budget period. Upon enquiry as to the reasons for the variance, the Committee was informed that the number of air patrols was determined by the number of planned flight hours. For both periods, 1,320 flight hours had been budgeted, but during the 2011/12 period the actual number of hours flown amounted to 1,037, which equated to an average of 64 patrols per month. **The Committee questions the logic behind determining the number of air patrols on the basis of the number of available flight hours. The Committee takes the view that, as a general rule in all peacekeeping missions, operational activities should be determined first and foremost on the basis of actual needs on the ground.**

Information technology

36. Estimated requirements for information technology for the period 2013/14 amount to $713,100, an increase of $141,700 (24.8 per cent) over the apportionment for 2012/13. In paragraph 40 of the budget document, the Secretary-General indicates that the increase is attributable mainly to additional requirements for information technology services owing to the inclusion of provisions for first-, second- and third-level support, the upgrading and updating of software systems and applications, including the field support suite (a Umoja enabler), and centrally provided support services from the Office of Information and Communications Technology. The variance is partially offset by reduced requirements for spare parts and supplies.

37. The Advisory Committee notes from the supplementary information provided to it that, during the current budget period, UNFICYP is projecting overexpenditure in the amount of $64,000 under the information technology budget line and has also reprioritized resources from other lines (consultants, official travel, special equipment and other supplies, services and equipment) to meet requirements for the implementation of IPSAS and Umoja. It is indicated in the supplementary information that no provision had been made for those requirements in the 2012/13 budget.

38. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with detailed information on the status of the implementation of IPSAS and Umoja at UNFICYP. In brief, the implementation of IPSAS had focused on four main areas of activity: preparation of the regulatory framework, preparation for opening balances, the re-engineering of processes and systems and change management. Mandatory computer-based training courses had been introduced for all mission support staff and instructor-led training was provided to some 65 staff members; a mission-specific implementation plan had been developed; a full inventory of real estate in the mission area, as well as physical verification of non-expendable and expendable property, had been completed; a data-cleansing process had been initiated; and the horizontal IPSAS preparedness audit had been conducted and the related recommendations implemented. Implementation activities were being monitored regularly in close cooperation with the Department of Field Support.

39. As for Umoja, a site implementation team had been appointed and was meeting weekly; a mission-specific implementation plan was under development;

staff had been nominated for train-the-trainer programmes; a mission-wide awareness-raising campaign had been launched; and a data-cleansing process had been initiated. Implementation activities were being monitored regularly in close cooperation with the Umoja implementation team.

40. **The Advisory Committee welcomes the progress made to date in the implementation of IPSAS and Umoja at UNFICYP and expects that efforts will continue to ensure that the target dates for each are met. The Committee also expects that any additional IPSAS- or Umoja-related requirements arising during the 2013/14 period will be met from within the approved resources, through reprioritization where necessary, and reported in the related performance report.**

41. From the supplementary information provided to it, the Advisory Committee notes that, while the standard ratio for computing devices is 2.5 users per piece of equipment, the projected mission ratio for the budget period for national staff is 1.1 users per piece of equipment. Upon enquiry as to the reason for the deviation from the standard ratio, the Committee was informed that the majority of national staff at UNFICYP performed administrative and clerical duties that required computing devices. The Committee intends to comment further on the standard ratios for computing devices, as well as other items of equipment, in its forthcoming report on cross-cutting issues (A/67/780).

Special equipment

42. Estimated requirements for special equipment for the period 2013/14 amount to $25,200, an increase of $5,600 (28.6 per cent) over the apportionment for the 2012/13 period. The Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 42 of the budget document that the additional requirements are attributable to the acquisition of three pairs of binoculars. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the tripod-mounted binoculars currently held by the Force had been damaged in a storm and that, since they were over 10 years old, repair was not a viable option due to the unavailability of spare parts. The Committee was also provided with detailed information on the technical specifications of the replacement binoculars required and was informed that requests for quotations had been sent to various local vendors. In April 2012, one quotation had been received in the amount of €12,000 per pair of binoculars. In August 2012, a market price of $7,000 per pair of binoculars had been received. The 2013/14 budget estimates had been calculated on the basis of the latter figure, with additional requirements for freight.

4. Other matters

43. In the table in paragraph 24 of the budget report, the Secretary-General lists a number of efficiency initiatives, totalling $1,875,000, that have been taken into account in the preparation of the cost estimates for the 2013/14 period. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that efficiencies in the amount of $891,000 anticipated in the rotation of military and police personnel were attributable mainly to the increased use of commercial, rather than chartered, flights. **The Committee commends UNFICYP for its efforts to achieve operational efficiencies and looks forward to receiving information on the actual efficiency gains realized in the relevant performance report.**

V. Conclusion

44. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 are set out in paragraph 30 of the performance report (A/67/590). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $189,000, as well as other income and adjustments in the amount of $132,600, be credited to Member States.**

45. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 are set out in paragraph 43 of the proposed budget (A/67/706). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Assembly appropriate an amount of $54,706,500 for the maintenance of the Force for the 12-month period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014, including $23,990,567 to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus ($17,490,567) and the Government of Greece ($6.5 million) and assess an amount of $4,558,874 for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 to 31 July 2013. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 July 2013, the Committee recommends that the Assembly assess an amount of $50,147,626 for the period from 1 August 2013 to 30 June 2014.**

Documentation

- Budget performance of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (A/67/590)
- Budget for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (A/67/706)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2011 (A/67/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (A/66/718/Add.9)
- General Assembly resolutions 65/295 and 66/268 on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
- Security Council resolution 2089 (2013)